

Practice Report

Speak to us online

Learning a new language involves four skills: reading, listening, writing and speaking. In this presentation I am going to argue that speaking is the highest form of language use, it is the real test if someone is able to use and apply their inert knowledge and ideas in real time. From the perspective of brain activity and depth of neurological processing speaking involves more motor brain than any other action and is certainly the most active of the skills that we teach in the foreign language classroom.

In this presentation I will argue that **speaking to an audience is one of the most effective ways to improve and expand one's language skills and show how we can use free and easy-to-use online tools to give learners more speaking time.** I will

- show examples of using online speaking activities to help learners expand their vocabulary,
- show how speaking can help proceduralize grammatical patterns,
- and show how “elevator speeches” can help learners to understand the topic and structure their thoughts coherently

Examples cover learners at different levels of proficiency (A1 to C1) and use free online tools that do not need any specialized IT skills.

